

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 242632
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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:JTHYDEN:JP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 242632

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 6872 ACTION SECSTATE 08 OCT 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T JIDDA 6872

NODIS

DEPARTMENT PASS USDEL SECRETARY NEW YORK AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
POSTS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), ET, SA

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS CONCERNING OGADEN PEACE INITIATIVES

REF (A) SECTO 10060, (B) SECTO 10059

1. AS LONG AS SAG THINKS THERE IS POSSIBILITY THAT SOMALIS
CAN TAKE OGADEN, WE BELIEVE THEY WILL NOT FAVOR IDEA OF CEASE-
FIRE. THEY BELIEVE THAT SIAD BARRE IS SERIOUS ABOUT WANNING

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TO MOVE AWAY FROM SOVIETS AND THAT SOMALI CAPTURE OF OGADEN
WILL RESULT IN REDUCTION OF SOVIET PRESENCE IN HORN. IN
ADDITION, THEY SEE DETACHMENT OF OGADEN FROM ETHIOPIA AS PRO-
VIDING SELF-DETERMINATION FOR TRADITIONAL MUSLIM AREAS. IF
WE APPROACH SAG AT THIS TIME, THEY WILL PROBABLY EXPRESS ONCE
AGAIN THEIR DISAPPOINTMENT THAT USG HAS DENIED MILITARY ASSIS-
TANCE TO SOMALIA. THEY WILL ARGUE THAT USSR DOES NOT WANT

CEASE-FIRE AND IS TRYING TO EXTEND ITS INFLUENCE IN HORN BY KEEPING WAR GOING. THEY WILL PROBABLY CONCLUDE THAT IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, CEASE-FIRE NOT POSSIBLE.

2. IF SOMALIS TAKE HARAR AND SECURE DEFENSIVE LINE ALONG EASTERN EDGE OF RIFT, WE BELIEVE SAUDIS MAY THEN FAVOR CEASE-FIRE IN PLACE AND MAY ACTIVELY SUPPORT IT. SINCE SOMALI AND SAUDI MAJOR OBJECTIONS WILL HAVE BEEN OBTAINED, THEY MAY VIEW CEASE-FIRE IN PLACE AS MEANS OF SOLIDIFYING GAINS.

3. FOREGOING IS EMBASSY'S BEST SPECULATION IN ABSENCE OF ACTUAL CONSULTATION WITH SENIOR SAUDI OFFICIALS. FOMIN PRINCE SAUD IS EXPECTED BACK IN KINGDOM TODAY AND I HOPE TO SEE HIM SOMETIME TOMORROW. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES, I CAN RAISE SUBJECT WITH HIM AT THAT TIME. IN THAT CASE, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF I KNEW WHETHER SECRETARY HAD DISCUSSED MATTER WITH HIM PREVIOUSLY. WEST.
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER".

SECRET

NNN

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